



NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA 2002 WHEAT PRODUCTION DOWN FROM A YEAR AGO

LINCOLN, Neb., September 30, 2002—Final 2002 estimate for Nebraska wheat production is set at 48.6 million bushels, 18 percent below last year's crop, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. This is also down 18 percent from two years ago but 5 percent above the August 1 forecast. Average yield in Nebraska is estimated at 32 bushels per acre, unchanged from the August forecast, 5 bushels below last year, and the lowest since 1992. Planted acreage was down 100,000 acres from a year ago. Acreage for grain, at 1.52 million, is 5 percent less than last year but 70,000 acres above August.

Oat production in 2002 totaled 2.4 million bushels, down 35 percent from last year's crop. Planted acreage, at 175,000 acres, was up 13 percent from 2001 while harvested grain acreage, at 55,000 acres, was down 5,000 acres from a year ago. Drought conditions led to greater abandonment and increased utilization of acres for hay or pasture. Yield, at 43 bushels per acre, was down 18 bushels from last year.

Barley production totaled 215,000 bushels, up 19 percent from last year's crop.

Wheat: Planted, Harvested, Yield, and Production by Agricultural Districts, Nebraska, 2001-2002¹

District	Planted Acres ²		Harvested For Grain		Yield		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>				<i>Bushels</i>		<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	
Northwest	750.0	730.0	677.8	650.0	32.2	25.9	21,815.2	16,807.0
North	13.0	9.0	9.1	7.0	39.8	30.0	362.2	210.0
Northeast	2.0	2.0	1.2	1.6	40.4	38.0	48.5	61.0
Central	23.0	21.0	17.5	19.2	42.0	39.0	734.8	749.0
East	22.0	20.0	18.3	19.2	42.3	48.0	775.0	922.0
Southwest	575.0	540.0	539.8	508.0	39.2	32.0	21,141.7	16,256.0
South	200.0	186.0	184.8	180.0	44.5	39.0	8,232.6	7,020.0
Southeast	165.0	142.0	151.5	135.0	40.2	49.0	6,090.0	6,615.0
Nebraska	1,750.0	1,650.0	1,600.0	1,520.0	37.0	32.0	59,200.0	48,640.0

¹ Preliminary district estimates 2002. ²Planted acres are for all purposes.

Source: USDA NASS

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